

WHAT A GASOLINE ENGINE DOES ON ONE FARM

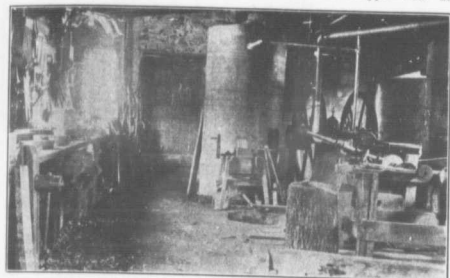
W. C. Barrie, Waterloo Co., Ont.

PREVIOUS to 10 years ago we used a steam engine to do all our threshing, grinding, feed cutting, etc. At that time it cost \$200 a day to hire a man to run the engine, and we would burn about \$1.00 or \$1.50 worth of wood. We also had to spend a lot of time and trouble drawing water. As labor was getting scarce and the rough wood not as plentiful as it once was, we decided to buy a gasoline engine.

After some consideration we purchased an 18-horse power stationary gasoline, and have had almost perfect satisfaction with it. We find that it will run to the full capacity for 10 hours on from 18 to 20 gallons of gasoline. We pay 18¢ cents a gallon for the barrel, making an expenditure of a little over \$3.50 for a full day's work. When running small machines,

for 150 feet further through the barn. The shaft runs on roller bearings and very little power is wasted. The reason that the first 60 feet is of two-inch shafting, is that we have the heaviest running machines near the front of the barn, and a heavy shaft is necessary to prevent twisting. At first we had a little trouble with a small shaft, but have had none since the putting in of the two-inch. On the shaft are pulleys that drive the different machines in the barn.

While doing our threshing the engine has to drive a threshing, grain elevator, chaff blower, straw carrier, straw cutter and blower. We are able to thresh 80 bushels of wheat an hour, and only three men doing the work. We do our own chopping with a 10-inch Vossot chopper and find



A Combination Farm Workshop and Power House

The operations that Mr. W. C. Barrie, Waterloo Co., Ont., performs with his gasoline engine are many and numerous. He tells all about them himself in the adjoining article. We have here an interior view of Mr. Barrie's power house, showing his work bench as well as his engine.

such as a saw and fanning mill, we use only four or five gallons.

The first cost and the repairing on a gasoline engine is much less than with steam. The principal expense in the upkeep of a gasoline engine is in connection with the batteries, but that has been a very small item with us as our first batteries (six wet cells) lasted seven years without being renewed. This small expense for cells is due to the fact that our engine is stationary, under cover and in a very dry place.

THE FARM WORKSHOP

My engine is situated in a one-story stone building 30 feet by 20 feet. The building is 30 x 20 feet, and is used as a blacksmith and carpenter shop.

The engine is situated at one corner of the shop and is parallel with the front of the barn. An overhead shaft in the shop is driven by a pulley on one of the engine flywheels.

On the shaft are pulleys connected by belts with a turning lathe, hand saw, emery wheel and a grinder by the engine, and this saves a lot of hard work. We use the lathe to turn out neck yokes, singletrees, handles, pulleys and fence posts. The engine is used to grind plow shares, cultivator teeth, etc. When sharpening straw cutter knives, axes and chisels we grind them back from the face a little with the emery, and finish them on the grindstone. In this way the edge of the knife or axe is not damaged by the temper being taken out as an emery is apt to do.

A two-inch shaft 60 feet long runs from the crank shaft of the engine to the barn, and is suspended on hangers, two feet below the barn floor. An inch and a half shaft leads from the end of this two-inch shaft

that size quite large enough for our engine. We clean our grain with a large fanning mill, which has a scourer connected with it. We can clean 200 bushels an hour, and do better work than with a hand mill. While cleaning grain we run the chopper at the same time and save gasoline in that way.

We fill our two silos with a corn cutter, driven by the engine. We have also used the engine to run a hay press. We have a rip saw in the barn, and when it is necessary to rip a board or make a wagon tongue we can start the engine and have it saw running in less than a minute. Our wood shed is 250 feet from the engine at the opposite end of the barn. When sawing wood we start the engine in the morning, and do not go near it until noon. We stop and start the saw by means of a slip jack.

EXPENSE VERSUS LABOR SAVED

I believe that a gasoline engine does away with a lot of the drudgery on the farm and makes the work more pleasant. We hardly notice the expense in connection with the oil and gasoline when we take into consideration the labor saved.

Some people advise the use of a gasoline engine in preference to a windmill for pumping water, but I do not agree with them there. Nothing could do the pumping cheaper than a windmill that is properly attended to.

Many people make the mistake of buying a three or four horse power engine and expect it to do work that requires a six or eight horse power engine. I would advise any one who intends buying an engine to cut feed and do chopping to get an eight or 10 horse power engine. It is better both for the engine and the machine driven to have a little extra power.

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